

BOOK NOTICE

Coleoptera or Beetles East of the Great Plains. By J. Gordon Edwards. Lithoprinted by Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan. 1949, 181 pp.

This book consolidates much information that will be of use to students of Coleoptera. Illustrated and simplified keys are given to the families of beetles occurring east of the Great Plains (east of the Mississippi River), and a general discussion is given of each family and in some instances of the genera and species in these families. The latest family nomenclature has been followed and, although the families have been arranged alphabetically throughout most of the book, a phylogenetic list based primarily upon the morphology of the beetle larvæ is presented. A glossary of terms used in the book is included for the use of the beginning student and a list of important supplementary references follows the discussion of each family. An interesting tabulation of the 136 families occurring in the United States, based on Leng's catalogue, reveals that in the area east of the Mississippi River there are approximately 8,346 species and 553 varieties described to date. In the area west of the Mississippi River there are known to be some 15,371 species and 1,548 varieties. The book will be a valuable addition to the libraries of beginning students and amateur coleopterists.—MONT A. CAZIER.